State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Wisconsin State Park System
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Welcome to the Wisconsin State Park System!

The Wisconsin State Park System is comprised of our 50 state parks, 9 recreation areas, 15 state forests, and 44 state trails. There are over 6,500 campsites across this system, plus over 500 boat access sites, 700 miles of equestrian trail, and thousands of miles of hiking, biking, and water trails. From the forested Northwoods to the glacially formed Lake Michigan coast to the Driftless region and down to the southern border, Wisconsin has something for everyone.

The Wisconsin State Park System offers a wide variety of activities for all abilities and interests. Established hiking trails, campsites, and fishing holes complement activities like snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and mountain biking. There are self-guided nature trails, picnic shelters, playgrounds, and concession and restroom amenities at many locations while some spots remain undeveloped and open to exploration by boat or foot.

Along with your Park Pass, there will be a variety of materials, guides, and resources from the Department of Natural Resources available at your library. Before heading out on your big adventure, here are a few tips and reminders.

Your Pass

Your daily admission pass is valid for a one-day, one-vehicle visit to a state park, forest, or recreation area. Make sure to keep this pass in the driver's side dashboard of your vehicle. Parks are open 6 a.m. until 11 p.m., seven days a week. Most state trails and some parks, like Havenwoods State Forest, do not require a vehicle pass.

Planning Your Trip

Find state park information online at https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Parks. There, you can use our "Find a Park" tool to search by feature or amenity. If you use the search bar tool at the top right of the page, key words will help you find what you're looking for. Try words like "camp", "nature center", "kayak", or "pets" to help plan your trip. Use keywords "Open the Outdoors" to find adaptive recreation equipment for loan.

Wisconsin Explorer Activities

Each kit includes a Wisconsin Explorer activity sheet. This is an introduction to fun booklets available in three age levels available at properties. Stop by the visitor center or nature center. Kids, make sure to complete select activities in the booklet to receive your Explorer patch!

Survey and A Chance To Win

This is still a new program for us! By filling out the online survey at the bottom of this page, you'll help us with this program in the future. If you'd like a chance to win one of the 2024 Annual Vehicle Admission Stickers, leave your contact information at the end of the survey. We will do random drawings throughout the program. If you wish to purchase an annual pass, they will be available to purchase online, at parks, or by calling 1-888-936-7463 starting in November 2023.

From all of us at the Wisconsin State Park System, thank you for Checking Out Wisconsin State Parks At Your Library!

Happy exploring!

To provide feedback and be entered for a chance to win an Annual Vehicle Admission Sticker, please scan the QR code and complete the online survey.

